

WARM AIR 3 Aug 12

Aviation Sports Club Gliding Newsletter

THIS WEEKEND:	Club Cellphone 021 745 433 www.ascgliding.org
Saturday.	Instructing: Ray Burns Towing: Rex Carswell Duty Pilot Chelle Thomson
Sunday.	Instructing: Lionel Page Towing: Rex Carswell Duty Pilot Roy Whitby

MEMBERS NEWS

SATURDAY *Towie Rex Carswell gets to go first*

As we often have at this time of year, the weather frequently produces a mixed bag of conditions for us to contend with - and I'm talking about the days that are deemed 'flyable', but 'way less' soarable than many would prefer. The last three weekends have produced only one 'flyable' day each - being the Saturday - often with stroppey easterly conditions upon us - ahead of the bucket of mixed troughs that prevented us flying on the Sunday.

It is encouraging to see the quantity of flights that have been conducted under such conditions - 31 during the last 3 flying days. I'm sure all participants would agree that practice in these 'less than ideal' conditions adds both confidence and ability to your skill. Not only that - much pleasure and banter is evident as pilots compete to see who can 'squeeze out' the longest duration on these (usually) 'sled ride' days. Graham Lake took the towplane to Parakai last week for some remedial work by Leading Edge Aviation, and needed to be collected Saturday morning.

Again, the club demonstrates it's in 'good heart' when looking for a willing volunteer. In this instance - my 'thanks' go to Roy Whitby for driving me to Parakai - and also to Andy MacKay for having offered as well.

For those who braved the chilly wind right to the end and tucked the fleet away - a treat was in store - Steve Foreman 'shouted' to celebrate his recent QGP status. Congratulations Steve - and thank you.

A reasonable mid-winter day and a lot better than what was forecast for Sunday. This being the case I was expecting a lot of members turning up to make the most of the only day available. Although the wind was up at about 15 knots the rain stayed away and I opened up the gate at about 10 o'clock. Not long after Kish turned up on his big blue motorcycle. He has been away in India for a month. Then Andy arrived and we opened up the hangar to find a distinct lack of yellow in the front. RDW was at Parakai in an effort to get the rough starting issue sorted and would hopefully be back in time to get gliding underway. As it turned out Roy Whitby had picked up Rex Carswell and dropped him off at Parakai. About 1130 the base radio crackled with "Romeo Delta Whiskey on finals 08". New battery fitted and new engine mounts meant its better but probably still not 100 per cent. No problems during the day though.

GMP was still in need of a test flight before it could fly but Rex was not keen to do this with the predicted high winds and rough air. I DI'ed GMW and by lunchtime we set up at the 08 end of the airfield. First flight and only one for me was a 1500 ft check circuit so Kish could do another flight in VF. The conditions weren't as bad as they looked despite the windsock sticking out at 90 degrees.



Steve Foreman took MW up next on his own for 13 minutes and Ian O'Keefe grabbed VF for a tow to 2500ft and a 17 minute descent. Kish quickly jumped in and after a brief review of things by Rex he was off for a quick 1500 circuit followed by a neat landing.



Next up Ian O'K and Gary Patten in MW for the longest flight of the day - 28 minutes. By 3.30 everyone who was going to fly had done their thing and conditions weren't looking too flash for soaring so Ivor Woodfield and Steve Foreman did the hangar flight after a bit of low level exploration near the Hare Krishna temple.

By 4.30pm the gliders were in bed and we retired for some beers

courtesy of Steve Foreman. Not sure of the reason but that Corona tasted good.

For those that want to know how my cycle race went on Sunday, it went really well. I did my best effort to date placing in the top 100 finishers out of 600 entrants. Weather was cold and windy and a few patches of drizzle.

SUNDAY *Instructor Andy McKay pounds the keyboard*

No flying yesterday - I think I saw a seagull doing minus 10mph.

QGP LECTURES

The third of the series of QGP ground courses is this Thursday 2 Aug at 1900 (7pm). This week it is Navigation with Lionel Page.

Location is on Base in the education block behind the Hot Shots Cafeteria. Arrangements have been made for access thru the gate. The lectures will continue each Thursday evening until 30 August. Next week its Peter Thorpe taking Air Law and Jonathan Pote taking Human factors the following week. The exams will be on the 23 August and the final week, 30 Aug, will be a radio course.

BIRTHDAY BOY



Sorry I couldn't make it on Sunday. What a great cake.

Many thanks to the cake maker

LIBELLE SHARE FOR SALE



Terry Dagnin's share in Libelle 201B GIV is up for sale. GIV has done a touch under 3000hrs and had some 1540 aerotows. There are two other partners. She has a Borgelt vario, winter vario airspeed, altimeter and compass, radio and transponder.

Ill health prevents Terry flying solo again so his share is available. He is open to offers. Call him on 021 181 5664. See Graham or Ivor for more information.

LS-4a ZK-GKP FOR SALE *Peter Coveney has his LS-4A up for sale:*

This is a really good example of one of the nicest gliders to fly. KP comes with a Colibri secure logger, the latest Borgelt, B500 vario and B2500 glide computer, combination worth over \$7000. The trailer is a clam shell type Komet which makes rigging and derigging a breeze. Great value at \$55,000. Currently located at Whenuapai. Contact Peter Coveney at petercove@ihug.co.nz or phone 021 02251470.



TAILPIECE

I noted an email trail where Lionel was seeking to swap his Saturday for the Sunday. Our resident "Ray" of sunshine was happy to accommodate but felt it would not matter as the weather would be crap all weekend. Talk about sticking a hex on all the weekend. Seriously though we have been enjoying a spell of less than wonderful weather and soaring has become something folk talk about rather than do.....which neatly brings me to our customary deployment to Matamata for Labour weekend. Most times we get good soaring weather, we have had the ridge working and we have even had a wave afternoon. Matamata is a good environment to stretch the wings with plenty of places to safely go when ones enthusiasm exceeds the lift. The Airfield has a good camp ground with a number of cabins (singles, groups, doubles and family) available at a very modest costs. The facilities include a good kitchen/dining unit. For those wanting a touch more luxury good motels are available in Matamata, Morrinsville and further afield. Piako Club normally put on a raost meal one evening.

We will take all the fleet, normally aerotowing MW there and back, (though we still take the trailer for obvious reasons). We will look for volunteers to fly there and back, (with an instructor if required). We will also need volunteers to tow VF and MP down and back. Book cabins with Ralph Gore Gore.Family@xtra.co.nz

See you at the field

WARM AIR

NEW PART ROSTER BELOW

